I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below. Dated: May 9, 2003 Signature: (Diane Blevins)



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Diane Blevins

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

MAY 15 2003

In the Patent of:

Mark G. ERLANDER and Ranelle C.

SALUNGA

Serial No.:

10/062,857

Filing Date:

October 25, 2001

For:

NUCLEIC ACID AMPLIFICATION

Examiner: Shar S. Hashemi

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

4

Group Art Unit: 1637

MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATION

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

The above identified non-provisional application was filed as PCT application number PCT/US01/50340 with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) on 21 December 2001. The PCT application claimed benefit of priority from the above identified non-provisional application as well as the provisional applications from which the above non-provisional application claims benefit of priority.

The filing of the PCT with the USPTO on 21 December 2001 provided, and is considered, notice of a subsequent foreign or International filing of the above identified non-provisional application as required by 35 U.S.C. § 122(b)(2)(B)(iii) and 37 CFR 1.213(c).

Moreover, Applicants were not in possession of the serial number for the above non-provisional application in a timely manner. Due to the events following September 11, 2001, the above non-provisional application was delivered by the U.S. Postal Service Express Mail service on February 4, 2002 despite having been mailed on October 25, 2001. The U.S. Patent and

Trademark Office sent the return receipt postcard accompanying the above application on or after February 4, 2002 such that the serial number was received by Applicants representatives on 21 February 2001. Therefore, Applicants could not provide notice in the above application (in the absence of the serial number) within 45 days of 21 December 2001 as required by 35 U.S.C. § 122(b)(2)(B)(iii) and 37 CFR 1.213(c).

A Request to Rescind Previous Nonpublication Request under 35 U.S.C. § 122(b)(2)(B)(ii) was previously filed in the above non-provisional application on April 11, 2002. The filing of the Request was delayed because of the need to await the serial number as noted above.

Dated: May 9, 2003

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Respectfully submitted,

By:

Kawai Lau, Ph.D. Registration No. 44,461

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